



Regional Action Council Executive Directors Are More Than Administrators

WHAT REGIONAL ACTION COUNCILS *REALLY* DO

- We build relationships at the local level
- We work to provide the communities that we serve with education, training, and advocacy for substance abuse prevention and related concerns
- We assess community substance abuse problems
- We inventory resources to address substance abuse problems
- We identify gaps in services and changes to community environments that will reduce substance abuse
- We design programs and develop plans to fill identified gaps in services
- We bring key constituency groups together including government leaders, mental health and substance abuse treatment professionals, law enforcement, social service providers, school personnel, parents, civic groups, faith organizations, youth and others
- We tailor prevention strategies to meet each community's specific needs
- We work at the grassroots level, allowing information regarding substance abuse and community needs to be collected *and* disseminated, efficiently
- We use coalition input and needs assessment data to gain additional resources to meet the prevention needs of our communities
- We bring in financial resources for programs from sources such as Substance Abuse Mental Health Service Administration's (SAMHSA) Mentoring, Drug-Free Communities and STOP Act Programs; The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, The United Way, and local community foundations and other contributions. **From 2005-2009 RACs together brought in over 18 million dollars in Federal and local contributions to communities to enhance substance abuse prevention efforts.**